

House Resolution 517

By: Representatives Yates of the 73rd, Lakly of the 72nd, Freeman of the 140th, Glanton of the 76th, Smith of the 168th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the men and women of the Georgia Army and Air National Guard and
2 recognizing National Guard Day in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in the past year, more than 4,000 Georgia Army and Air National Guard
4 members have served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, serving in
5 Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Kosovo, and at other military bases worldwide; and

6 WHEREAS, members of the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat team returned home to more than
7 30 hometown armories in 2006 following a highly successful and high-profile year-long
8 mission in Iraq; and

9 WHEREAS, the 116th Air Control Wing from Robins Air Force Base has continuously
10 deployed to the Middle East, flying more than 7,350 combat flying hours and more than 700
11 sorties in its sophisticated E-8C Joint STARS aircraft in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom
12 and Enduring Freedom; and

13 WHEREAS, the Georgia Army National Guard's 221st Military Intelligence Battalion;
14 Company A, 878th Engineer Battalion; 122nd Rear Operations Center; and 124th Mobile
15 Public Affairs Detachment all returned in 2006 following successful deployments in support
16 of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

17 WHEREAS, the Georgia Air National Guard's 224th Joint Communications Squadron, 202nd
18 Engineering Installation Squadron, 165th Air Support Operations Squadron, and 283rd
19 Combat Communications Squadron all deployed airmen in support to Iraq and throughout
20 the Middle East as part of the Global War on Terrorism; and

21 WHEREAS, Company C, First Battalion, 185th Aviation Regiment is currently deployed in
22 support of the NATO Kosovo Force in southern Serbia of the former Yugoslavia; and

1 WHEREAS, the 165th Airlift Wing from Savannah deployed to Germany in 2006 in support
2 of Operation Joint Forge, the European Command's flying operations throughout Europe; and

3 WHEREAS, some 150 Georgia National Guard members are currently serving along the
4 Mexican border helping protect our nation from illegal immigrants; and

5 WHEREAS, the 116th Air Control Wing, the 202nd Engineering Installation Squadron, and
6 the 283rd Combat Communications Squadron all earned Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards,
7 marking one of the only times that three units from one state received the honor; and

8 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Defense Force, the third component of the Georgia
9 Department of Defense, continues to provide trained volunteers to backfill in critical areas
10 for deployed Georgia Guardsmen and continues to be ready to respond to and assist the
11 National Guard and local authorities in times of emergency; and

12 WHEREAS, the Georgia National Guard continues to add value to the State of Georgia and
13 communities through its Youth Challenge Academy, Peach State STARBASE, Counterdrug
14 Task Force, and the ongoing partnership with the Republic of Georgia; and

15 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense continues to evolve its structure and train
16 to be better able to protect our state and nation through its increased role in homeland
17 security.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
19 the members of this body join in commending the Georgia National Guard, recognizing
20 March 6, 2007, as National Guard Day in Georgia, and expressing gratitude to the members
21 of the United States armed forces who have served or are presently serving to protect our
22 nation.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
24 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Lieutenant General David
25 Poythress, Adjutant General for the Georgia Department of Defense.